Caste and Gender in Contemporary India: Power, Privilege and Politics

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This book explores the intersectional aspects of caste and gender in India that contribute to the multiple marginalities and oppressions of lower castes, with particular reference to Dalits, Muslims and women. It moves beyond the conventional accounts of experiences of women in unequal, social and political relationships to examine how caste as a system and ideology shapes hegemonic masculinity and feminisation of work, and thus contributes to the violence against women. The volume looks at their everyday lived realities within and across diverse social and political contexts – families, education systems, labour, communities, political parties, power, social organisations, the politics of representation and the writing of the subaltern women. With a range of empirical work, it brings forth the complexities of identity politics and further analyses its limits in regional and historical frameworks.

This book will be of interest to students, scholars and specialists in caste and gender studies, exclusion and discrimination studies, sociology and social anthropology, history and political science. It will also be useful to Dalit writers and people working in the development sector in India.